# dilithium Press



#### dilithium Press Directory West Coast Computer Faire

BOOTH: #414, Civic Auditorium

+ Registration to win 10 free books or software

+ Spotlight on the just-released PRESENTING THE

MACINTOSH

+ Demonstration of TELOFACTS -- the software tool

for designing and automating questionaires
+ Demonstration of 32 BASIC PROGRAMS -- the

software package which was the #1 best-selling book/software package in the B. Dalton bookstore chain in 1983 (Commodore 64 version) The series

has sold over 185,000 copies.

BOOKSIGNING AND DEMONSTRATION:

Bookmania Bookstore, 160 California St.

Wednesday, March 21 - 1:00-3:00 -- Author Jerry Willis will be signing copies of the best-selling book COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY, 3RD EDITION and COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY 1984 BUYER'S GUIDE.

Thursday, March 22 - 1:00-3:00 -- Authors Merl Miller and Mary Myers will be signing PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH and demonstrating the features of the Macintosh computer.

#### CONFERENCES:

Thursday, March 22 - 4:00-6:00, Room #315, Civic Auditorium -- Best-selling author Jerry Willis will present "Writing the Great American Computer Book" as part of the conference on "Writing and Word Processing Professionally."

Saturday, March 24 - 11:00-2:00, Room #404, Civic Auditorium -- Authors Jerry Willis and Jay Shrock will team up to present "Me and My Modem" as a part of the conference "Telecommunications II."

#### INTERVIEWS:

Merl Miller and Jerry Willis will be available for interviews throughout the Faire. Contact Ann Hovland at the dilithium Press booth for appointments.

8285 SW Nimbus Suite 151 Beaverton, Oregon 97005 503-646-2713 800-547-1842



For Immediate Release

Contact: Ann L. Hovland, Public Relations 800-547-1842

BEST-SELLING COMPUTER BOOK AUTHOR TO REVEAL "HOW TO WRITE THE GREAT AMERICAN COMPUTER BOOK"

BEAVERTON, OR (March 22, 1984) -- Author of more than 30 books and cited by the Wall Street Journal as one of the most financially successful computer book authors, Jerry Willis will share his insights at two conferences at the West Coast Computer Faire in San Francisco, March 22-25.

"Writing computer books is as much writing about people as it is about technology," Willis explains. He will elaborate on his own writing philosophy and reveal the secrets of his success at the conference on "Writing and Word Processing Professionally" on Thursday, March 22 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in room 315, Brooks Hall, Civic Auditorium. Writing the Great American Computer Book will be the subject of Willis' presentation. He will offer suggestions to aspiring authors on how to:

- + Select a Salable Topic
- + Organize for the Writing Process
- + Organize the Book Itself

+ Find and Select the Best Publisher

The floor will be opened up for questions after the author's presentation.

Also a key speaker for the "Telecommunications II" conference on Saturday, March 24 from 11:00 - 2:00 in room 404 (Brooks Hall, Civic Auditorium), Willis will team up with Jay Shrock to present Me and My Modem. The two authors will talk about:

- + What Telecommunications Is
- + What Equipment is Needed to Get "Online"
- + The Wide Variety of Telecommunications Services
  Available

Both of the conferences are free of charge and open to all Faire attendees.

Jerry Willis' first book Peanut Butter and Jelly Guide to Computers, written in 1978, was selected by the Library Journal as the outstanding computer book of the year. He has published over 20 titles with dilithium Press including Computers for Everybody which he coauthored with Merl Miller in 1981. Now in its 3rd edition, Computers for Everybody has become one of the best-selling computer books on the market. Willis is currently at work on 6 new books which will be published by dilithium Press this fall.

Jay Shrock is a doctoral student at Texas Tech University who has harnessed the power of personal computers in his personal as well as his professional life. He will publish his first book with dilithium Press this fall.

Jerry Willis and Jay Shrock will coauthor a forthcoming diltihium Press book about telecommunications, <u>Exploring</u>
The <u>Outer Limits</u>, which will be released this fall.

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For Immediate Release

Contact:
Ann L. Hovland,
Public Relations or
Wynne Ramirez,
Marketing
800-547-1842

DILITHIUM PRESS ANNOUNCES
NEW PRODUCTS FOR APPLE'S MACINTOSH

Selected as a "seeding" site by Apple Computer,
dilithium Press was given the opportunity to develop
several new products prior to the Macintosh release in
January. dilithium Press plans to release at least four
new books and book/software packages for the Macintosh in
1984:

PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH, by Merl K. Miller and Mary Myers, is an easy-to-read examination of Macintosh features and a good explanation of how the Macintosh is unique. This book clearly describes the Macintosh word processing program, MacWrite, and the computer's illustration graphics package, MacPaint. One of the first "Mac" books to be released, PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH is available now.

ISBN 0-88056-305-2 128 pages/116 illustrations \$5.95

HOW TO USE THE MACINTOSH, by Jerry Willis, is a guide that helps you get started with your Macintosh. With an

8285 SW Nimbus Suite 151 Beaverton, Oregon 97005 503-646-2713 800-547-1842 emphasis on very practical information, the author thoroughly describes the computer and its basic components, and provides step-by-step instructions on how to get it "up and running".

ISBN 0-88056-307-9 128 pages/25 illustrations \$5.95

TELOFACTS 2 FOR THE MACINTOSH is a book/software package that helps you design and automate custom questionnaires. This completely revised version of dilithium Press' TELOFACTS software incorporates

Macintosh's graphic menus and the simplicity of its mouse capabilities to make your information-gathering task fast and efficient.

ISBN  $\emptyset-88\emptyset56-223-4$  150 pages/70 illustrations

PC TO MAC AND BACK, by Peter H. Mackie and John R. Griffin, is a communications package designed specifically for the Mac. This book/software package provides for any binary or text files to be transferred between the IBM PC and Apple Macintosh computers. It enables you to send and read bulletin board messages, have person-to-person interactive dialogue, and enjoy automatic electronic mail. ISBN Ø-88056-224-2

96 pages/46 illustrations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ann L. Hovland, Public Relations or CONTACT: Wynne Ramirez, Marketing

800-547-1842

#### PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH

Scheduled for release in March of 1984, dilithium Press is proud to present one of the first publications on the sensational new Macintosh computer. PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH, by Merl K. Miller and Mary A. Myers, unveils Apple Computer's latest innovation. The first in a series of at least four new dilithium Press publications on the Mac, this book provides a clear and detailed description of the computer's extraordinary functions and capabilities.

PRESENTING THE MACINTOSH introduces you to a new technology that is exciting the computer industry. A mouse that commands and windows to peek through are only some of the progressive features that this book introduces you to. This book also covers other exceptional features of the Mac in an easy-to-read fashion. It -

- \* explores the Mac's electronic desktop
- \* outlines word processing fundamentals
- \* describes Mac's word processing program, MacWrite
- \* shows you how to use MacPaint to create graphs, charts, and illustrations for business or pleasure!
- \* predicts the future of the Mac
- \* includes a handy glossary

An extraordinary feature of the Macintosh is that it is image oriented. This means that there are no complicated commands to learn and very little to remember. After reading this book, consumers may never want to go back to the "old" way again.

ISBN 0-88056-305-2

128 pages/116 illustrations

\$5.95

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SPRING / 1984



# dilithium Press



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WE HAVE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES! Your time is precious. You can't be expected to read dozens of periodicals about the computer industry and keep abreast of what's going on. But you can depend on the fact that our reps know what's going on. See the back of this catalog for the name of our representative in your area. Or call our toll-free number (800-547-1842), and ask for our marketing department. We'll answer your questions and head you in the right direction.



YOU'LL ENJOY OUR BRAINFOOD NEWSLETTER! Our bimonthly newsletter highlights current news in the computer industry, and informs you of upcoming computer shows. It also includes a section called "Answers From Merl" where Merl Miller answers your questions about selling computer books and software.

**ORDER OUR FREE CASSETTE!** In order to be a successful part of the "computer revolution," you need to know the specifics of how to display and sell computer books and software. Merl Miller, dP Chairman, recently completed a 20-city tour giving seminars for booksellers on how to make computer sections work. A cassette recording of his final session is now available, free upon request. Just call us at **(800) 547-1842** outside of Oregon, or 646-2713 in Oregon.

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WE HAVE FLEXIBLE CO-OP ADVERTISING TERMS! Call our toll-free number (800-547-1842) and ask for our marketing department for a full explanation.



YOU PROBABLY ARE AWARE OF DILITHIUM PRESS' REPUTATION FOR PUBLISHING QUALITY AND TIMELY BOOKS AND SOFT WARE. FOR US TO USE ADJECTIVES LIKE "EFFICIENT AND RAPID" WITH ORDER FULFILLMENT, AND "FRIENDLY" WITH CUSTOMER SERVICE MEANS THAT WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT DELIVERING BOTH PRODUCT AND SERVICE TO YOU.

### DILITHIUM PRESS SERVICES



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When you buy and display computer books and software, you should emphasize audience level. We help you do that by breaking down our books into **5 different audience levels:** general interest, business, software, programming and hardware. Plus we mark the audience level on the back cover of our books.

**GENERAL INTEREST.** There are three kinds of general interest books: introductory, literacy, and non-specific. An introductory book tells you how to use a particular computer or program. A literacy book, like **Computers for Everybody**, tells you how to buy a computer, what to do with it, and how much it will cost. A non-specific book discusses the computer industry in general.

**BUSINESS.** Business books can be broken down into two categories: small business and managerial. The small business books, for example, might tell you how to buy an accounts receivable package, how much to spend for a computer or how to decide whether or not you need a consultant. A managerial book tells you how to become a better manager.

**SOFTWARE.** Software comes in a variety of forms. The first thing you should know is that software is the program(s) that makes a computer do something. It can be a complex accounts receivable package or a simple game. A program might be so simple that you can type it into the computer yourself. If the program you are typing into your computer is taken from a book, then the book is a piece of software. Software is also made available on cassette tapes or disks.

**PROGRAMMING.** Programming is the physical process of making the computer do something. Programming books can be divided into two groups: theory and languages. Programming theory books will sell well in your store to people who are interested in developing their own programs. BASIC programming books should comprise a large portion of your programming shelf and there should be a fair selection of books on other computer languages.

**HARDWARE.** Hardware books describe the internal workings of a computer. Be careful with books in this area. Some books with introductory sounding titles are actually hardware books that will alienate your customers.

**TO HELP YOU EVEN FURTHER, WE DIVIDE OUR BOOKS INTO 4 LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY.** These levels refer to how easy the book is to read and how much technical background is required. EACH TITLE IN THIS CATALOG HAS A NUMBER BESIDE IT, WHICH INDICATES THE DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY.

**LEVEL (1)** books are the most elementary. The primary purpose of a level (1) book is literacy. Books at this level have an 8th grade reading level and require no electronics, math or computer background. In addition, there is very little computerese.

**LEVEL (2)** books may or may not assume some computer background. They do, however, use some computerese and the author assumes that you have a specific goal in mind. The reading level, however, is the same as level **(1)** books. The market for level **(1)** and level **(2)** books is exactly the same. The difference is that a level **(2)** book requires more time because it uses more computerese.

**LEVEL (3)** books are intended for serious computerists. Books at this level, for example, teach you how to program in assembly language or how to repair your computer. The reading level may still be at a fairly low level but you are expected to have some technical background.

LEVEL (4) books are textbooks or professional reference books on computers.

**Note:** Books with a (C) after the title are books for children.

### A LETTER FROM MERL MILLER

#### CHAIRMAN



#### **Dear Friend:**

These are exciting times for booksellers. Just as it looked like our industry was in real trouble, the computer came along and changed everything. Now it's up to you. You need to decide how you are going to participate and lay out some clear plans that will put you in the forefront of this "computer revolution."

In the next two years, three times as many personal computers will be purchased as there are now. This means that the primary market for computer books and software is, and will continue to be, either people who are thinking about buying a computer or people who have just bought one. If you don't do something to attract these people, you will sell only a fraction of what you could. Now is the time to start selling software in your store.

Software is a program or group of programs that makes a computer do something. You can actually do things with a computer without programming experience. And because of this, software is becoming the most profitable part of the computer industry. By the end of this decade, total software sales for personal computers will be greater than total book sales on all subjects.

Software will attract people into your store who don't even normally buy books. More importantly, from your viewpoint, software can be sold in a bookstore. You don't need to know anything about computers or software to sell our software and we expect other publishers to follow suit.

So what kind of software should you sell? Basically, anything under \$50. Games? The video game market was originally based on 200 products for 6 machines. If you carry games at all you should carry arcade games, simulations, adventure games (participatory novels?), and strategic games.

Combination packages of software programs are becoming increasingly popular, due to their wide range of interest and low cost. For instance, 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE COMMODORE 64 COMPUTER is a top seller. It includes a variety of programs: applications, educational, games, graphics, and mathematics.

Business and managerial software is selling well, although combination worksheets, such as spreadsheet add-ons may start slowly.

One important thing to consider as you buy software is what the publisher is going to do for you. *Technical Support* is especially important. Software publishers should provide your customers with accessible technical assistance. This means your customers have someone (besides you) to call when they don't understand something. And you will not have to even be involved when there are problems.

Documentation is another important topic. Our software is sold either in book form (with program listings included) or in book/software packages. The book is the documentation. This means the documentation is easy-to-understand and complete.

Attractive packaging is a must, especially as software competition escalates. Software should be displayed right below eye level, with some of it face out.

The publisher's discount structure and terms need to be examined carefully. Our terms for software are the same as for our books, but not many software publishers are doing that. Our return policy for software is also the same as for our books (you can return it any time with 100% refund).

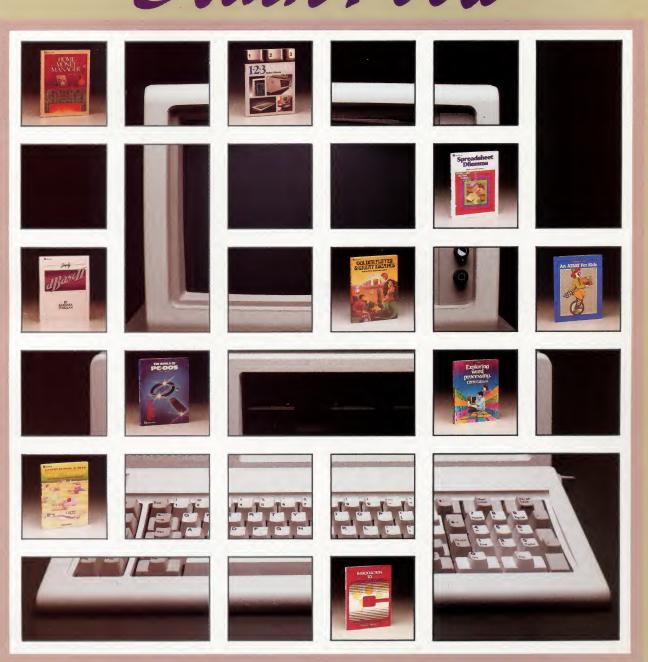
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Call us any time you need help, want a friend or would like to talk about this crazy business.

Best regards

Merl K. Miller, Chairman dP dP dP dP dP dP dP SPRING 1984 dP dP dP dP dP dP dP

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### FT US HELP

If you think as we do, computers are amazing! They never cease to excite us with their possibilities. But interest levels may vary between you and your next-door-neighbor. Your neighbor may be very technically oriented and may enjoy doing machine language programming. You may just be curious about what all this hoopla is about and want to learn a little about computers in a general sense. Or vice versa.

Which is why we have divided our catalog into subject areas and then categorized each title into level of difficulty. That will help you decide which book and/or software package best suits your needs.

First, the subject areas:

**NEW TITLES:** This section contains all of our new books and software titles for Spring. Under each title, a month is indicated when the book or software will be available. Feel free to order ahead of time and we will ship the title when it arrives in our warehouse, or visit your local bookstore or computer store during the indicated month and buy directly from them.

**GENERAL INTEREST:** These are books on computer literacy and are of general interest.

**BUSINESS:** Computer books and book/software packages specifically for use in businesses.

**SOFTWARE:** Books and book/software packages to make your computer do something.

**PROGRAMMING:** Books about computer languages and operating systems.

**HARDWARE:** Books that describe the internal workings of a computer.

Please note that after every title there is a number. That number indicates degree of difficulty of that book or book/software package. (1) is very easy, (4) is very technical, (C) indicates books for children. Most people read level (1) and (2) books.

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As always, we welcome your thoughts, comments and suggestions. If you would like to be a part of our author team, please write and tell us about your project.

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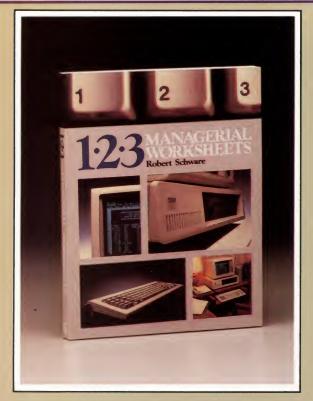
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		How to Get Started with MS-DOS	
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GENERAL INTEREST		FORTH Fundamentals, Volume 2	
Computers for Everybody, Third Edition	13	How to Get Started with CP/M	
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Peanut Butter and Jelly Guide to Computers		Take Aim: Volume 1	
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Computers, readiling and Learning	10	Introduction to Structured FORTRAN.	27
BUSINESS			
		HARDWARE	
All About 1-2-3		Computer Architecture and Organization.	28
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		Technical Report Standards	29
COETWADE		Analysis of Linear Dynamic Systems	
SOFTWARE		Probability and Statistics	
More Than 32 BASIC Programs—Commodore 64	19	Analysis and Design of Digital Circuits	
More Than 32 BASIC Programs—Commodore 64 book/software package.	19	Digital Circuits	29
32 BASIC Programs—Apple		Filter Theory and Design	
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#### 1-2-3™ MANAGERIAL WORKSHEETS (2)

Robert Schware

Let 1-2-3 help you be a better manager! Here's a collection of useful and creative managerial applications for this bestselling software package. These worksheets allow you to use the multi-functional capabilities of 1-2-3 to calculate your personal net worth, your rate of return, ratio analysis, cash flow management, comparative investment, and linear regression analysis. A complete inventory management system is also included.

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These worksheets range from very simple to sophisticated. You can use them immediately, regardless of your level of expertise. As you use them, you learn what this powerful managerial tool can do for you.

This book gives you down-to-earth instructions for preparing and using each worksheet. You learn management techniques while you put the worksheets together and while you use them.

Every worksheet can be modified, so you're given ideas on how to change them to fit your needs. And the section on Integrated Worksheets shows you how to combine your worksheets. The possibilities are endless!

You can either buy the book alone and type the programs in yourself, or buy the book/software package and have a disk that is eady to run in your computer.

BOOK: \*\*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE:

 dilithium Press
 200 pages
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 dilithium Software
 5½" disk

 ISBN 0-88056-144-0
 April
 paper \$19.95
 ISBN 0-88056-195-5
 May
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Software runs on IBM PC, IBM PC XT, COMPAQ or other IBM-compatible computers with: 192K RAM with DOS 2.0 or 128K RAM with DOS 1.1

 2 disk drives with 2 double-sided, double-density disks or
 1 disk drive and 1 hard disk with 1 double-sided disk

A monochrome or color graphics display monitor Printe. (recommended) Lotus 1-2-3 Program disk (version 1.0 or 1A)



# 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE COLECO ADAM™ (1)

Tom Rugg and Phil Feldman

Here's another new title to enhance dilithium Press' "32 BASIC Programs" series, written specifically for your Coleco ADAM computer.

This book is brimming with 32 fully-tested, ready-to-run programs. Games, graphics, educational applications and practical uses are included. Every chapter follows a successful formula designed to make it easier for you to use each program. The authors describe the purpose of the program, and then tell you how to use it. They include a sample run and the complete program listing. They also suggest easy changes and other projects for you to do. Main routines and variables are also listed.

You can either buy the book alone and type the programs in yourself, or buy the book and software as a package and have a digital data pack that's ready to run in your computer.

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 dilithium Press
 288 pages/50 illustrations
 634 × 834
 dilithium Software

 ISBN 0-88056-141-6
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See pages 19, 20, 21 and 22 for more books and software in the 32 BASIC PROGRAMS series.



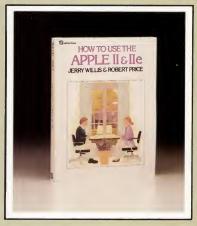
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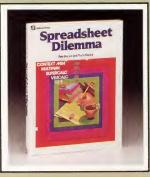
Everyone has to learn the basics. This book gives you lots of illustrations and has "building block" instructions. If you know a little bit about your computer's hardware, but have no programming experience, this helpful guide gets you started and makes you feel at ease with dBASE II.

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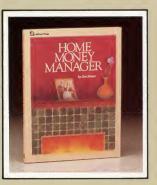
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120 pages 63/4 × 83/4 paper \$9.95 \* BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE: 51/4" disk

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The book introduces you to KeepTrack, teaches you how to use it, and gives you several useful examples of how KeepTrack is used in small organizations, educational institutions, and for personal use. The program reference guide is also included. It describes all of the features of the program, plus provides you with a cross-reference listing to the more detailed descriptions in other parts of the book.

KeepTrack performs all of the following useful functions: add data, display data, change data, save a file, retrieve a file, print labels, sort by category, turn sort off, and select categories.

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#### KeepTrack™: Reporter (2)

Norm Church and Bruce Schneider

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The program reference guide is also included in the book. It describes all the features in the program and it's a handy quick reference. The software contains a sample file, which allows you to actually follow through the book's many examples.

BOOK: dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-142-4 \*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGES :

100 pages

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ISBN 0-88056-197-1 May

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Software runs on an

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Applesoft BASIC

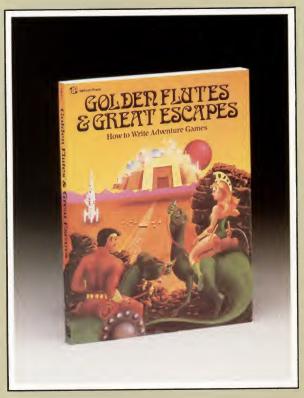
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# GOLDEN FLUTES AND GREAT ESCAPES How to Write Your Own Adventure Games (2)

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Delton T. Horn

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You don't have to be a computer whiz to understand and enjoy these programs, though a little familiarity with BASIC programming is helpful. By using the tricks and suggestions in this book, you can start programming your own adventure fantasies!

There's a thriving market for good adventure games, so don't forget that you can sell your games for a little extra cash after you've had your fun.

You can either buy the book alone and type the programs in yourself, or buy the book/software package and have a disk or cassette with the programs ready to run in your computer.

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dilithium Press 200 pages/155 illustrations ISBN 0-88056-089-4 February

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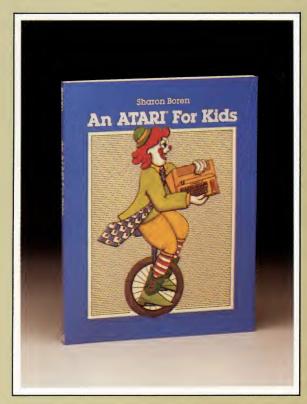
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Sharon uses a developmental approach to teaching good programming skills with a focus on problem solving, improved thinking skills and creativity.

The book is designed for children ages 8 to 13, and parts can be adapted for use by younger children, too.

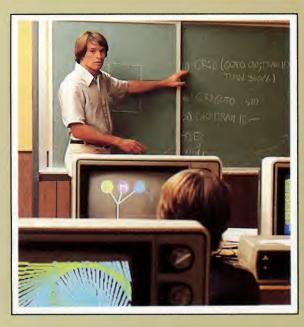
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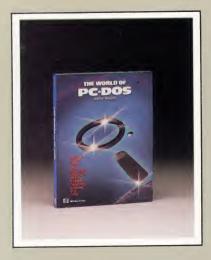
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Final Word; PeachText; The Benchmark; Select; Perfect Writer and MIST.

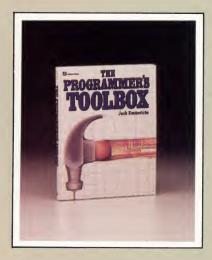
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The example programs run on any computer that uses Microsoft BASIC-80 release 5.0

(notably the IBM PC), under CP/M or MS-DOS operating systems.

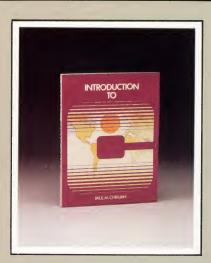
While Jack's book, **HOW TO BUILD A PROGRAM**, is an introduction to program design, **THE PROGRAMMER'S TOOLBOX** teaches you programming skills and tells you about the tools you need to build BASIC programs.

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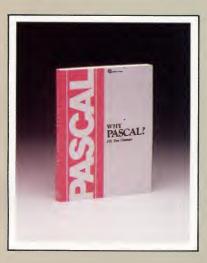
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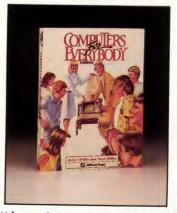
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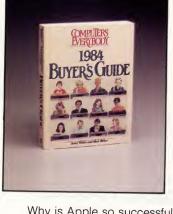
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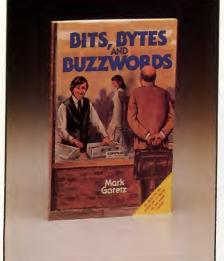
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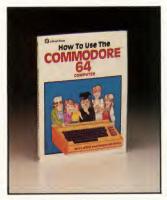
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Each of these books assumes you know nothing about computers. They introduce you to your computer and its basic components, and how they work together. Each book gives you step-by-step instructions on how to set up your computer, how to get it running, and how to load and save your programs—all in a comfortable, readable style.

You're given special hints on how to handle problems you run into with your computer, how to use and modify programs published in books and magazines, and where to look for more information.

With an emphasis on practical information, these guides help you learn to effectively use your computer.

See page 5 for new titles in our "How To Use" series



dP

#### **CONTROL THINGS WITH** YOUR TIMEX SINCLAIR (2)

Robert L. Swarts

dP

Tired of playing games? Put your Timex Sinclair 1000 or 1500 to work! With a few inexpensive parts you can measure the outside world automatically-light, heat, weight and much more. Use your computer to time events, produce simple tunes, and turn on lights and appliances remotely. Increase your machine's repertoire by adding audible alarms and other sounds. Add a real keyboard and/or joystick to your system.

Components are readily available (especially at Radio Shack outlets), and the average project cost is less than \$10.

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Computers are changing the world around you. They are changing what you need to learn and how you learn it. For many years educators in computer science have stressed the need for everyone to learn something about computers. They recommend learning what computers are, how they are used, and how they affect people.

Written by educators, this book teaches you just that. The format of the book is especially suited for self-instruction. The chapters contain a variety of activities and quizzes. Plus the final "Computer Literacy Exam" helps you chart your own progress.



#### **GET PERSONAL WITH** YOUR TI-99/4A (2)

William A. Manning and Lon Ingalsbe

This light, informative, easy-to-read personal computer book is exclusively for your TI-99/4A computer. The main focus of the book is on BASIC programming, complete with lots of example programs and exercises—you even learn how to produce graphics and sound!

dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-098-3

200 pages/50 illustrations 1983

 $6^{3/4} \times 8^{3/4}$ paper \$9.95



#### PEANUT BUTTER AND **IELLY GUIDE TO** COMPUTERS (2)

Jerry Willis

"...proves an informative and diverting introduction.'

-Datamation

Chosen by the Library Journal as an outstanding computer publication of 1979, this entertaining book is a simple, easy-todigest source of information on personal computing. It gives you all the essentials you need to get started. In this combination consumer's guide and tutorial, no one is safe from Jerry's wit. He offers his thoughts on what can be done with a computer, plus where to buy one.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-13-4 224 pages/86 illustrations 1978

 $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ paper \$9.95



#### **COMPUTERS FOR** PEOPLE (1)

Jerry Willis and Merl Miller

Written by two well-known computer book authors, this book outlines some of the major benefits and uses of microcomputers, specifically the ATARI 400 and 800 computers. Not only does it describe the many applications of computers, the book also discusses electronic mail, word processing and educational uses. Plus it gives you a 7step guide to buying a computer. A 15-page glossary and 24 pages of color photographs are included.

Backed by the Atari ad campaign with the slogan "Computers for People."

dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-64-9

208 pages/45 illustrations 51/2 × 81/2 1982 paper \$7.95

#### COMPUTERS, TEACHING AND LEARNING (1) A Guide to Using Computers in

Jerry Willis, D. La Mont Johnson and Paul Dixon

If you're interested in using computers in your classroom, this book covers the important topics of concern to you as an educator. It gives you direction and support in this new teaching area, plus tells you about Computer-Aided Instruction, Computer-Managed Instruction, and testing. The practical issues are covered (selecting hardware and software), and so are the problems (piracy, teacher training and the crisis of computer literacy). You even learn a little about the programming languages of BASIC, PILOT, and Logo.

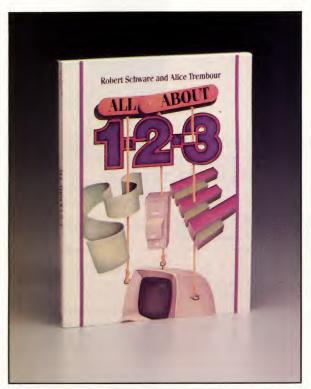
dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-065-7

Schools

272 pages/66 illustrations 1983

51/2 × 81/2 paper \$9.95

### BUSINESS



#### ALL ABOUT 1-2-3<sup>™</sup> (1)

dP

Robert Schware and Alice Trembour

dP

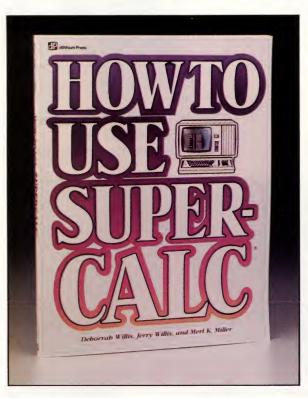
Now you don't need lots of software programs to help you make your decisions—new integrated software packages combine the necessary ingredients into one! 1-2-3, designed by Lotus Development Corporation, is one of the bestselling packages available today.

**ALL ABOUT 1-2-3** is an excellent pre-sale book about 1-2-3. It provides a simple introduction to the special and particular capabilities of 1-2-3, as well as being a general guide to buying a managerial software package for a personal computer.

With humor and practicality, the authors explore the incredible versatility of 1-2-3, including lots of examples of how people use it and what they use it for. In an easy way, the multi-functional aspects of the program are revealed (electronic worksheets and calculations, graphics, and information management). Plus an extensive question and answer section addresses its capabilities and limitations.

This book introduces you to the world of 1-2-3, so you can decide whether or not 1-2-3 is for you.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-129-7 144 pages/41 illustrations 1983 63/4 × 83/4 paper \$9.95



#### HOW TO USE SUPERCALC® (2)

Deborrah Willis, Jerry Willis and Merl Miller

SuperCalc is the bestselling program that prepares financial spreadsheets and forecasts. This book is a manager's guide to the applications and implementation of spreadsheet programs in general, and SuperCalc specifically. With simple terms and down-to-earth directions, you learn what SuperCalc does, then how to organize, arrange and use your data.

Many examples are used in this book to develop a complete Expense Account worksheet. Plus you're shown the steps to set up a Cash Sales Forecast. The examples are available on disk for computers with CP/M operating systems IBM Personal Computers, or the Osborne computer with: 48K memory, 2 disk drives, printer (optional) and SuperCalc program disk (version No. 1.12 or greater).

#### воок:

dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-095-9 112 pages/61 illustrations

8½ × 11 paper \$19.95

51/4" disk

\$34.95

\*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGES:

8" disk

\$34.95

For computers with CP/M

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-173-4 For the IBM PC

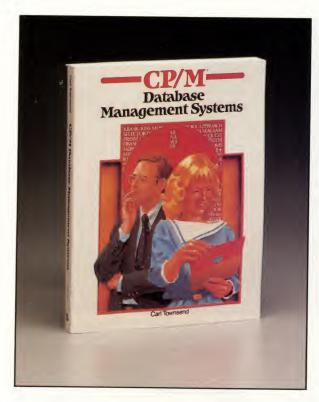
ISBN 0-88056-184-X

dilithium Software 51

51/4" disk \$34.95 For the Osborne

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-179-3

### BUSINESS



### CP/M® DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (3)

dP

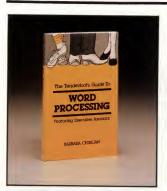
Carl Townsend

Database management systems are not inexpensive, yet it's hard to find a good comparison of what they are and how they work. This book thoroughly compares more than 12 different database management systems for CP/M based microcomputers in a practical, easy style.

If you're interested in selecting and purchasing a database management system without unnecessary headaches, you need to read this book before making any decisions! You learn how database management systems can improve your way of dealing with information in everyday business. And it gives you a good overview of over 12 systems, with essential facts about installation, file creation, data retrieval, reporting, and summary notes—plus the important advantages and disadvantages of each system.

Database management systems described in the book are: KSAM80 • The MAG Group • KBASIC & KISS • DATASTAR • The CONDOR/rDBMS System • dBASE II • FMS-80 • ACCESS/80 • MDBS III • BT80 Record Retrieval System • MIST • Logiquest • Micro-SEED • Access Manager •

dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-082-7 320 pages/79 illustrations 1983 63/4 × 83/4 paper \$19.95



#### THE TENDERFOOT'S GUIDE TO WORD PROCESSING (2) featuring

Executive Assistant

Barbara Chirlian

"...easily-understood instructions..."

-Midwest Book Review

"... readable and contains useful information for beginners."

—Business Computer Systems

Can I use word processing in my profession or small business? What do I need in the way of equipment? Will a word processor really be of use to me? These are just a few of the questions this book answers.

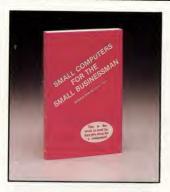
The first part of the book provides a general discussion of word processing. It includes a short history of word processing and a brief view of things to come. What a word processing program can and cannot do is clearly defined.

The rest of the book describes how to use a specific word processing program called "The Executive Assistant." You're given a detailed explanation of this program, which provides you with a clear idea of what the abilities of a word processor actually are.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-58-4 112 pages/20 illustrations

1982

6¾ × 8¾ paper \$10.95



#### SMALL COMPUTERS FOR THE SMALL BUSINESSMAN (2)

Nicholas Rosa and Sharon Wood

"Must reading for businessmen who are considering a purchase now or in the future."

-West Coast Review of Books

". . . written in a clear, non-technical language."

—The National Public Accountant

This excellent guide tells you how and where to shop for a computer successfully; what to expect a computer to do; how much computer is necessary; how to select software; whether or not to use a consultant; how to introduce the computer to your staff, and much more.

Specific topics addressed include: accounting, records, warehousing, light factory operation, and parts inventories.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-31-2 344 pages/83 illustrations

5½ × 8½ paper \$16.95



#### **INVENTORY** MANAGEMENT FOR SMALL **COMPUTERS (2)** featuring Quick Register

dP

Chuck Atkinson

"...a valuable addition to the world of small business application software."

-Interface Age

If you own a retail store or work in one, you need this book to help you cut costs and increase your profit!

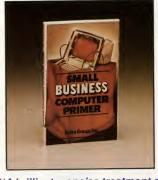
This inventory control program is designed to give you the necessary information-stock-on-hand, where it's located, purchase price, sale price and amount of goods sold. Purchase orders are prepared like magic, and physical inventory takes 1/3 the time. Plus "Quick Register" controls the inventory while printing the sales tickets. It's the inventory system that's a retailer's true

For computers that use CBASIC or CBASIC 2 running under the CP/M operating system with 32K RAM and 2 disk drives. All source listings included in the book.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-48-7 218 pages/140 illustrations

1982

51/2 × 81/2 paper \$16.95



#### SMALL BUSINESS COMPUTER PRIMER (2)

Robert McCaleb-Delta Group, Inc.

"A brilliant, concise treatment of the essentials...an admirable, practical PRIMER.'

—Computer Book Review

"Learn what to look for, how to look for it!" That's Robert McCaleb's approach in this book. He uses straightforward business language to help you focus on your needs prior to selecting a computer. He shows you the abilities and limitations of the computer in a way that is directly related to business. He includes worksheets and shopping lists as useful tools, all developed from a model of business needs. And his seven case studies are helpful for a first-hand look at the way businesses have been set up on computers. A reference section and handy glossary are also included.

dilithium Press ISBN 0-88056-067-3 160 pages/37 illustrations

"...a very helpful, carefully written book, full of excellent ideas."

income. It can do many jobs that you cannot do by yourself, and

can process routine jobs in much less time than it would take you

of proven money-making ideas. Loaded with concrete examples,

this book tells you how to produce and organize the services you

You can use your microcomputer as a lever to multiply your

This book helps you get things off to a flying start with dozens

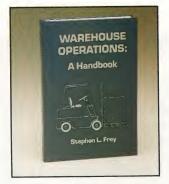
 $63/4 \times 83/4$ paper \$14.95

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**HOW TO MAKE MONEY WITH** YOUR **MICROCOMPUTER** (2)

Carl Townsend and Merl Miller

-Creative Computing



#### WAREHOUSE **OPERATIONS (3)**

Stephen L. Frey

Offered as an aid in managing warehouse operations, this book outlines fundamental principles and accepted practices of good warehousing. It's a handbook that translates the "nuts and bolts" of warehousing into an easy-to-understand format. A broad range of practical examples are provided, and it's well-illustrated with technical drawings. Plus there are sections that discuss recent O.S.H.A. regulations, freight claim filing, energy conservation, a forklift training guide, and equipment selection. It's written for anyone interested in the profession of warehouse management-aspiring warehouse foremen, front-line supervisors, and managers of warehouse operations.

M/A Press ISBN 0-930206-14-2 308 pages/151 illustrations

6×9 cloth \$39.95 dilithium Press ISBN 0-918398-74-6

to do them by hand.

168 pages 1979

51/2 × 81/2 paper \$13.95

want to sell, plus how to sell them.

MICROBOOK: Database Management for the Apple II MICROBOOK: Database Management for the IBM PC

Don't miss the following titles on page 22 that have business applications: How To Use TeloFacts TeloFacts 1 and 2

### 32 BASIC PROGRAMS SERIES

"...a model of how such a book should be written and published..."

-Creative Computing

Chock-full of programs with practical applications, educational uses, games and graphics, each of the 32 BASIC program books is designed for a specific computer. Written by experienced programmers, each of the 32 chapters fully documents a different bug-free program.

Every chapter is made up of 8 sections: PURPOSE (explains what the program does and why you might want to use it); HOW TO USE IT (gives the details of what happens when you run the program); SAMPLE RUN (shows you what you see on the screen when you run the program); PROGRAM LISTING (provides a "listing" of the program); EASY CHANGES (shows you some very simple changes you can make so the program works differently); MAIN ROUTINES (explains the general logic of the program); MAIN VARIABLES (explains what each of the key variables in the program is used for), and SUGGESTED PROJECTS (gives a few ideas for major changes you might want to make to the program).

You can either buy the book alone and type in the programs yourself, or buy the book and software as a package and have a disk or cassette which is ready to run in your computer.

#### PARTIAL LIST OF PROGRAMS:

APPLICATIONS: (Practical uses at home or work)

Biorhythm (predict your good and bad days)

Checkbook (balance your checkbook)

Decide (choose the best decision from your list of alternatives)

Loan (calculate payments and interest for mortgages, car loans, etc.)

Mileage (analyze your car's gasoline usage)

Quest/Exam (determine the results of questionnaires and examinations)

EDUCATIONAL: (Help yourself or others learn)

Arithmetic (math drills for schoolaged children)

Flashcard (create your own flashcards, then practice)

Metric (learn the metric system) Numbers (help pre-school

children to learn numbers) Tachist (increase your reading

speed with this tachistoscope) Vocab (expand your vocabulary)

GAMES: (Match wits with the computer or a friend)

Decode (figure out the computer's secret code)

Groan (this dice game will make you do just that)

Jot (challenge the computer to this word and logic game)

Obstacle (an arcade-like game)

Roadrace (try to keep the car on the

Wari (an ancient African skill game)

GRAPHICS: (Dazzling visual diversions)

Kaleido (a kaleidoscope with eight point symmetry)

Sparkle (hypnotic sparkling patterns)

Squares (overlaying concentric squares)

Walloons (a classic from the Color

MATHEMATICS: (For math. engineering, and statistical uses) Curve (perform least-squares curve Diffeqn (solve ordinary differential equations)

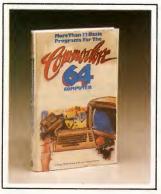
Graph (display a simple graph of a function)

Integrate (determine the area under a curve)

Simeqn (solve simultaneous linear equations)

Stats (perform standard "statistics of population" calculations)

MISCELLANEOUS: (Short programs that do interesting things) Birthday (find the odds of identical birthdays in a group of people) PI (calculate an approximation of pi) Powers (calculate powers of integers—up to 250 digits long) Pythag (generate Pythagorean triplets)



#### воок:

dilithium Press 354 pages/134 illustrations  $63/4 \times 83/4$ ISBN 0-88056-112-2 1983 paper \$19.95

\*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGES: dilithium Software 51/4" disk

**MORE THAN 32 BASIC PROGRAMS** 

COMMODORE®

Western Systems Group

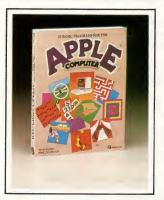
64<sup>™</sup> COMPUTER (1)

Tom Rugg, Phil Feldman and

FOR THE

ISBN 0-88056-180-7 \$39.95 dilithium Software cassette ISBN 0-88056-183-1

Software runs on **Commodore 64** computer with: 64K memory and 1 disk drive or cassette recorder



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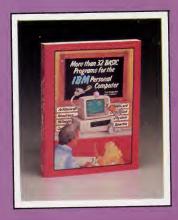
Software runs on Apple II, Apple IIe and Apple III (in Apple II emulation mode) computers with Applesoft BASIC, DOS 3.3, 16K memory and 1 disk drive

### **32 BASIC PROGRAMS SERIES**

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#### MORE THAN 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE VIC 20™ COMPUTER (1)

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BOOK:

\*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE:

dilithium Press 354 pages/114 illustrations 63/4 × 83/4 1983 paper \$19.95 ISBN 0-88056-181-5

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-059-2 cassette \$39.95

Software runs on a VIC 20 computer with: cassette recorder. (Note: 4 of the programs require a 3K Expansion.)

#### 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE ATARI® COMPUTER (1)

Tom Rugg, Phil Feldman and Timothy Barry

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BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE:

ISBN 0-88056-084-3

dilithium Press 288 pages/50 illustrations 63/4 × 83/4 paper \$19.95 1983

dilithium Software

ISBN 0-88056-172-6

51/4" disk \$39.95

Software runs on ATARI 1200, 800, 400 computers with: 16K memory, 1 disk drive, and color monitor or television

### MORE THAN 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE IBM® PERSONAL COMPUTER (1)

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dilithium Press 354 pages/114 illustrations 63/4 × 83/4 paper \$19.95 ISBN 0-88056-078-9 1983

BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE: dilithium Software

ISBN 0-88056-171-8 Software runs on the IBM Personal Computer with: 48K memory and 1 disk drive

#### 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE TI-99/4A(1)

Tom Rugg, Phil Feldman and Raymond Alen

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dilithium Press 288 pages/50 illustrations 63/4 x 83/4 ISBN 0-88056-136-X 1983 paper \$19.95

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dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-203-X 51/4" disk \$39.95

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-188-2 cassette \$39.95

51/4" disk

\$39.95

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Software runs on the TI-99/4A computer with: 16K memory and TI Extended BASIC Cartridge

### SOFTWARE



### 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE TRS-80® COMPUTER (1)

Tom Rugg and Phil Feldman

воок:

dilithium Press 288 pages/50 illustrations 634 x 83/4 ISBN 0-918398-27-4 1980 paper \$19.95

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For TRS-80 Model I dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-153-X For TRS-80 Model III and 4
51/4" disk dilithium Software

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Software runs on TRS-80 Model I, III, or 4 with: 16K memory, 1 disk drive, and Level II BASIC



### 32 BASIC PROGRAMS FOR THE PET® COMPUTER (1)

Tom Rugg and Phil Feldman

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воок:

 dilithium Press
 288 pages/56 illustrations
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 1979
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BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGES:

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ISBN 0-88056-152-1

51/4" disk dilithium Software \$39.95 ISBN 0-88056-169-6

8050 Format

51/4" disk \$39.95

Software runs on the **Commodore PET** computer with: **16K memory** and **1 disk drive**.



#### THE SINCLAIR ZX81 (2) Programming for Real Applications

Randle Hurley

### ALSO FOR THE TIMEX SINCLAIR 1000/1500™

This book gives practical programs to use on your computer that not only work, but do real jobs in a variety of environments. Included is a bulk storage program, word processor, financial applications, plus banking uses. This book casts aside any beliefs that the ZX81 is too small for any real computer work!

#### BOOK:

dilithium Press 188 pages/18 illustrations  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  ISBN 0-88056-090-8 1982 paper \$11.95

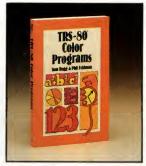
Available in U.S. and Canada only

#### \*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE

 dilithium Software
 cassette

 ISBN 0-88056-155-6
 \$24.95

Software runs on Sinclair ZX81, and Timex Sinclair 1000/1500 computers with: 16K RAM pack, cassette recorder, and black and white monitor



### TRS-80<sup>®</sup> COLOR PROGRAMS (1)

Tom Rugg and Phil Feldman

Designed specifically for the TRS-80 color computer, here are 37 fully documented programs that are educational, fun and practical. Each chapter of the book documents a program and is made up of 8 sections: Purpose, How To Use It, Sample Run, Program Listing, Easy Changes, Main Routines, Main Variables, and Suggested Projects. A special color section shows you how the programs look on a color monitor. You can either type the programs in yourself or buy the book/software package with the programs ready-to-run on cassette.

#### воок

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textit{dilithium Press} & 352 \, \textit{pages/112 illustrations} & 5\% \times 8\% \\ \textit{ISBN 0-918398-61-4} & 1982 & \textit{paper $19.95} \end{array}$ 

cassette

\$39.95

#### BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE:

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-154-8

Software runs on the TRS-80 Color Computer with: 16K memory, TRS-80 BASIC, and a cassette recorder



#### HOW TO USE SCRIPSIT™ (2)

Cleborne D. Maddux, Jackie Pederson and Jerry Willis

SCRIPSIT is Radio Shack's word processing program and this book teaches TRS-80 users how to use it. The first part of this clearly written book is a step-by-step tutorial through SCRIPSIT's capabilities. The second part is a cross-referenced alphabetical guide to terms and commands. Each term and command has a short explanation, and is referenced to the more detailed sections of the tutorial.

 dilithium Press
 216 pages/80 illustrations
 634 x 834

 ISBN 0-88056-110-6
 1983
 paper \$9.95

See page 10 for a note on dilithium Software's services.



#### **HOW TO USE** TELOFACTSTM (2)

dP

Deborrah Willis, Jerry Willis, and Merl Miller

This book shows you how to take full advantage of TeloFacts. It's a complete tutorial and serves as a "demo disk" in book form for the TeloFacts software. It discusses the documentation and

provides abundant examples and photographs of the computer screen, to help you use TeloFacts effectively and efficiently. If you're thinking about buying TeloFacts, this book explains what TeloFacts is, what it does and how you can use it.

#### BOOK:

dilithium Press 146 pages/88 illustrations 81/2 x 11 1982 paper \$9.95 ISBN 0-88056-116-5

#### BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGES:

TeloFacts 1 for the Apple

TeloFacts 2 for the Apple

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-174-2 51/4" disk \$49.95

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-176-9 51/4" disk \$199.95

Runs on Apple II (with 48K memory and language card) or Apple II or IIe computers (with 64K memory) with: 1 disk drive and

Recommended options: 80-column screen card, second disk drive, printer, and Mountain Computer Card Reader (TeloFacts 2 only).

### **TELOFACTS**<sup>TM</sup>

dP

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"... people engaged in marketing research or political polling routinely pay \$5000 to \$8000 a crack to consultants for the kind of work TeloFacts lets you churn out."

-Personal Computer News

TeloFacts is the complete software package that shows you how to design and automate custom questionnaires, tests, polls or applications. It provides you with the capability to gather opinions, resume information, marketing data, survey data, or any other question/answer information quickly and easily.

TeloFacts then analyzes and displays these responses in a variety of understandable methods. Designed for the professional who needs timely marketing, opinion or resume information,

TeloFacts is responsive and affordable.

Two versions are available: TeloFacts 1 displays results for one question or an entire survey. TeloFacts 2, with more options, displays results in report form, ranks, lists, or scores respondents, and links up with Mountain Computer's automatic feed Card Reader.

#### \*TeloFacts 1 for the IBM PC

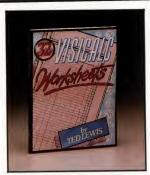
dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-175-0 51/4" disk \$49.95

dilithium Software ISBN 0-88056-177-7

TeloFacts 2 for the IBM PC

51/4" disk \$199.95

Runs on IBM PC or IBM PC XT computers with 128K memory, 2 disk drives, and monochrome adapter or color graphics adapter with parallel printer.



#### 32 VISICALC® WORKSHEETS (2)

Ted Lewis

You can expand your VisiCalc horizons with 32 versatile worksheets! You can either type them in yourself, or buy our book/ software package with the programs ready-to-run on disk. Each program is developed from routines and activities that you do every day: Games and Novelties, Business Applications, Household Applications, Statistical Analysis, and What-If Models.

#### BOOK:

dilithium Press

192 pages/35 illustrations

8½×11 paper \$19.95

51/4" disk

\$39.95

1983

ISBN 0-88056-165-3 Software runs on IBM PC computer with:

128K memory, 2 disk drives, UCSD P-System (recommended), and printer

necessary and is available separately

**Ted Lewis** dilithium Press 322 pages/86 illustrations 63/4 x 83/4 paper \$19.95 1982 ISBN 0-88056-072-X \*BOOK/SOFTWARE PACKAGE:

**Database Management** 

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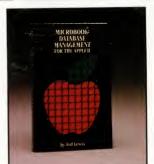
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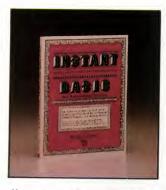
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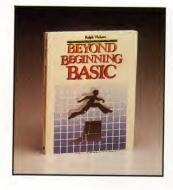
Of the dozens of books available purporting to teach computer programming, one of the consistently popular instructional texts has been INSTANT (Freeze-Dried Computer Programming in) BASIC.

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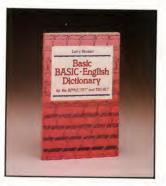
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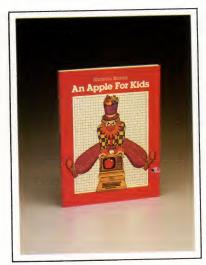
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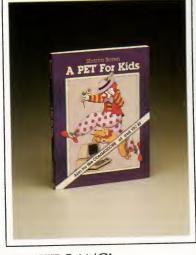
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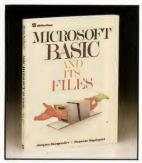
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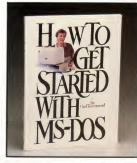
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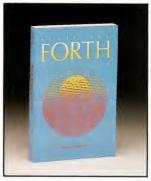
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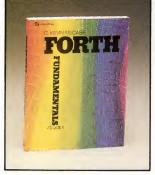
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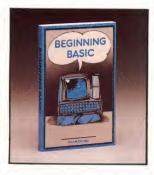
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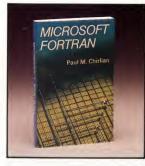
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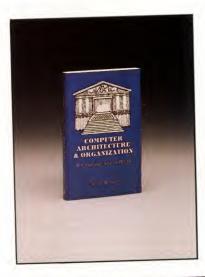
Paul M. Chirlian

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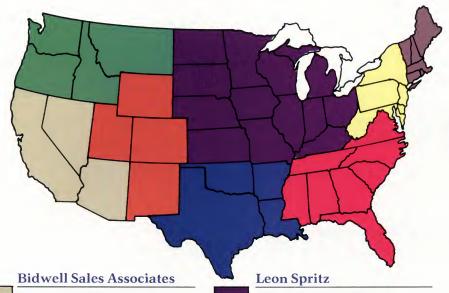


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# INDEX

	16	How to Make Money with Your Microcomputer	18	Peanut Butter and Jelly Guide to Computers.	24
All About 1-2-3		How to Use SCRIPSIT	21	A PET for Kids	24
Analysis and Design of Digital Circuits	29	How to Use SuperCalc	16	A PET in the Classroom—Activity Workbook.	24
Applyeis of Linear Dynamic Systems	29	How to Use SuperCalc		Δ PFT in the Classroom—Teacher's Guide	24
An Apple for Kids	24	How to Use SuperCalc CP/M	16	DET/CRM Rasics	26
An Apple in the Classroom—Activity Workbook	24	book/software package	10	Practical Guide to CP/M	20
An Apple in the Classroom—Teacher's Guide	24	How to Use SuperCalc IBM PC		Bu-land Statistics	29
Applications Experiments, Volume 1	28	hook/software package	16	Program Your Microcomputer in BASIC	27
Applications Experiments, Volume 2	28	How to Use SuperCalc Osborne		Program Your Microcomputer in BASIC	11
Applications experiments, volume 2	12	book/software package	16	The Programmer's Toolbox	20
Architecture of the 8048	15	How to Use TeleFacts	22	Reliability, Availability, Maintainability	25
Are You Computer Literate?	10	How to Use the Apple II and IIe.	5	Cimply dBase II	O
An Atari for Kids	9	How to Use the Coleco ADAM	5		
An Atari in the Classroom—Activity Workbook	9	How to Use the Commodore 64 Computer	14	The Sinclair 7X81	21
An Atari in the Classroom—Teacher's Guide	9	How to Use the Commodore of Computer	5	The Sinclair 7X81 hook/software package	21
Basic BASIC-English Dictionary	23	How to Use the IBM PCjr	14	Small Business Computer Primer	10
Reginning BASIC	27	How to Use the TI 99/4A Computer		Small Computers for the Small Businessman	17
Reginning FORTH	25	HOW TO OSE THE TIMEX SITISTAN COMPAGE.	14	The Spreadsheet Dilemma	6
Beginning FORTRAN	27	HOW IO USE THE VIO 20 COMPUTED THE FIRST THE PROPERTY OF THE P	14	The Spreadsheet Dilemma book/software package	6
Beyond Beginning BASIC	23		30	The Spreadsheet Dilemma book/soltware paskage	
Bits, Bytes and Buzzwords	13	Instant BASIC 2nd Edition	23	Take Aim: Volume 1	20
Bits, Bytes and Buzzwords		Introduction to BASIC	27	Technical Report Standards	22
Computer Architecture and Organization	13	Introduction to C	11	TeloFacts 1, Apple software	22
		Introduction to Linear Systems Analysis	30	TalaFacts 1 IBM PC software	22
	13	Introduction to Structured FORTRAN	27	ToloFooto 2 Apple software	<i></i>
Computers for a copic.	15	Introduction to Structured FOR THAN	18	ToloFoots 2 IBM PC software	22
Computers Teaching and Learning	15	Inventory Management for Small Computers	7	Tenderfoot's Guide to Word Processing	1 /
Control Things with Your Timex Sinclair	15	KeepTrack: File Manager for Personal Computers	,	32 BASIC Programs—Apple	19
CP/M Database Management Systems	17	KeepTrack: File Manager for Personal Computers	7	an DACIC Programs—Apple	
Design and Manage to Life Cycle Cost	30	book/software packages	/	book/software package	19
Digital Circuits.	29	KeenTrack Reporter	_	32 BASIC Programs—Atari	20
Dynamics of Physical Circuits	30	KoenTrack Reporter hook/software backages	7	32 BASIC Programs—Atam	
	29	Linear Network Theory	30	32 BASIC Programs—Atari	20
	29	Linear Systems Control	30	book/software package	20
Energy, 2nd Edition		Microbook for the Apple II	22	32 BASIC Programs—Coleco ADAM	4
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Filter Theory and Design	29	MICRODOOK TOT THE IDIVIFICATION FOR DOCKAGE		32 BASIC Programs—PE L	21
FORTH Fundamentals Volume 1	25	Microbook for the IBM PC book/software package.	28	22 PACIC Programs—PET book/software package	21
FORTH Fundamentals Volume 2	25	Microcomputer Systems Principles—6502/KIM	29	32 BASIC Programs—TI 99/4A	20
Fourier Series	30	Microprocessor Systems Engineering	23	32 BASIC Programs—TI 99/4A	
Fundamental Principles of Microcomputer		Microsoft BASIC, 2nd Edition		hook looftware package	20
Architecture	29	Microsoft BASIC and Its Files	25	32 BASIC Programs—TRS-80	21
Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering Analysis	12	Microsoft COBOL	25	32 BASIC Programs—The 90	
Fundamentals of Gas Dynamics	30	Microsoft FORTRAN	21	32 BASIC Programs—TRS-80 book/software packages	21
Fundamentals of Stress Analysis.	30	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—Commodore 64.	19	book/sonware packages	22
Fundamentals of Stress Analysis	15	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—Commodore 64		32 VisiCalc Worksheets	22
Get Personal with Your TI 99/4A	8	book/coftware nackages	19	32 VisiCalc Worksheets—Apple	00
Golden Flutes and Great Escapes	0	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—IBM PC	20	hook/software package	22
Golden Flutes and Great Escapes	0	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—IBM PC		OO VisiCala Warkshoots BM PI	
book/software packages	8	More Than 32 BASIC Flograms—IBWT O	20	hook/coftware nackade	22
Helicopter Performance	12	book/software package		TDC 90 Color Programs	
Home Money Manager	Ю	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—VIC 20	20	TDC On Color Programs hook/soffware Dackage	
Home Money Manager book/software backage	Ю	More Than 32 BASIC Programs—VIC 20	20	Using and Programming the Timex Sinclair	_ 20
How to Build a Program	20	book/software package	20	Warehouse Operations	. 10
How to Get Started with CP/M	20	Nailing Jelly to a Tree	26	Why Pascal?	. 11
How to Get Started with MS-DOS	25	1-2-3 Managerial Worksheets	4	The World of PC-DOS.	10
How to Make Money in Vacant Land	7	1 2.3 Managerial Worksheets		The World of PC-DOS	10
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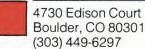
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#### dilithium Press

#### Background Information

Only six years old, Oregon-based dilithium Press already has become the leading publisher of computer books for beginners. The company has a worldwide network and marketing base of more than 5,000 outlets, most of them bookstores.

The home computer market is growing almost as fast as that of business computers; personal computer sales alone are expected to triple in the next two years. With this growth has come an increased need for understandable computer books! Already a leader in meeting the need, dilithium Press is publishing clearly-written, jargon-free books about personal computers. Through its programming service, dilithium Software, the company also offers computer programs for business and personal use.

Board chairman and co-founder of dilithium Press, Merl Miller, notes that the company is unique among computer publishers. "Computer manuals often ignore the obvious--like how to turn on the machine," Miller said. 'Our strategy at dilithium Press is to publish for the real beginner user, to explain computers in ways people can understand. I'm a maverick in the sense that I believe there's a simple way of explaining everything, from computers to nuclear physics."

dilithium Press grew out of Matrix Publishers, a textbook company which Miller started in Illinois. Although Miller's Bachelor of Science degree is in engineering, he worked in publishing nearly 16 years before starting Matrix.

\*dilithium is written with a small "d".

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In 1977, Miller teamed up with his west coast distributor and moved to Oregon to launch dilithium Press. The two decided to publish computer books for the general interest user.

Sales at dilithium Press were less than \$38,000 during the company's first year. Between 1979 and 1980, they jumped nearly 300 percent, and estimates for fiscal 1983 place revenues at over \$6 million.

The best-known book published by dilithium Press is <u>Computers for</u>

<u>Everybody</u> by Jerry Willis and Merl Miller, which <u>Time</u> magazine has called one of the biggest-selling on the subject today.

A major appeal of <u>Computers for Everybody</u> is the homey, sometimes humorous style with which Willis and Miller explain what a computer is, how it can be used, and how to buy it. They tell readers, for instance, that using software doesn't require one to know a computer language:

'Most of us can't play a note, but that doesn't stop us from buying and enjoying records and tapes.''

A companion book, <u>The Computers for Everybody Buyers Guide</u>, reviews more than 100 computer models and reports in depth on everything from keyboard quality and software to service records.

Other books from dilithium Press range from the simple (Computers for Everybody) to the sassy (Nailing Jelly to a Tree). There are books which focus on a specific computer, such as Get Personal With Your TI 99 or Control Things with Your Timex Sinclair. And there is a wide range of books on selected areas of computing including The Tenderfoot's Guide to Word Processing, Small Computers for the Small Businessman, and Basic BASIC-English Dictionary.

The company's computer program service, dilithium Software, was a natural expansion from the high-technology publishing, marketing and distribution base of dilithium Press. Software is a fast-growing market. By 1987, software sales will reach an estimated \$7 billion--nearly the size of the book industry--and will probably outsell books by the end of the decade. "The key for booksellers," Merl Miller said, "is to join the revolution and not fight it."

Miller emphasizes that a book is really no different from a software program. "A book is not a block of wood with ink poured in it,
any more than software is the disk or the computer. They're both ideas
in a receptacle." Following this philosophy, dilthium Software publishes
with the bookstore in mind. Software is packaged to sit on a shelf like
a book, and on the outside of each package are listed information and
hardware requirements.

Programs released by dilithium are divided into two categories:
'major' traditional software products (such as <u>TeloFacts</u>, a tool for polls and survey analysis) which are sold mostly through computer specialty stores, and 'minor' convenience software products (such as <u>32 BASIC Programs for the Apple or 32 VisiCalc Worksheets</u>) which sell for about \$30 and are marketed mostly through retail bookstores.

Brain Food, the catalog of dilithium Press, includes a two-page introduction to readers which describes the company's categories of computer materials (General Interest, Business, Software, Programming, Hardware and Engineering), defines software, and provides a toll-free telephone number for anyone with questions. The same toll-free number

is listed on the software packages to offer support and information to the user.

'When it comes right down to it, computers and computer publishing are service industries," Merl Miller points out. "And service includes attracting people, making sure there is inexpensive software available, and helping people understand their computers."

# # #



#### Merl Miller

#### Biographical Sketch

Merl Miller is board chairman and co-founder of dilithium\* Press. Since it was founded in 1977, the Oregon-based company has become the leading publisher of computer books and software for beginners with a worldwide network and marketing base of more than 5,000 outlets.

Miller is a Wyoming native with nearly 20 years of experience in both publishing and computers. The company's strategy, he maintains, is to publish for the general interest computer user.

'We want to explain computers in ways the consumer can understand.

I'm a maverick in the sense that I believe there's a simple way of explaining everything, from computers to nuclear physics," Miller said.

He notes that with personal computer sales expected to triple in the next two years, more and more people will want to educate themselves about their machines. Most computer manuals currently in print are cluttered with jargon, and there is a great need for books such as those published by dilithium Press, which are clearly written and take the fear out of computers.

Miller himself has written eight books on computers, the best known of which is <u>Computers for Everybody</u>, co-authored with Jerry Willis. Now in its third edition, the book was recently declared by <u>Time</u> magazine to be one of the biggest-selling on the subject today.

A major appeal of <u>Computers for Everybody</u> is the homey, sometimes humorous style with which Miller and Willis explain what a computer \*dilithium is written with a small "d".

-more-

is, how it can be used, and how to buy it. They ask readers, "Do you know what kind of engine your car has?" to illustrate why knowledge of isn't a prerequisite to using a computer.

The success of <u>Computers for Everybody</u> prompted Miller and Willis to write a companion book: The <u>Computers for Everybody Buyers Guide</u>. The guide reviews over 150 computer models, reporting in depth on everything from keyboard quality and software to service records.

Writing books has been a successful endeavor, but Miller's main interest lies in publishing them. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in systems engineering from the University of Wyoming, he decided he like people better than numbers, and in 1968 took a job in Boston as technical book salesman with Prentice-Hall.

Several years later, he moved to St. Paul, Minn. to work as editor for West Publishing Co. In 1975 he moved again, this time to Champaign, Ill., where, with the help of a friend's \$1,000 loan and \$9 of his own money, he started Matrix Publihsers, an engineering and computer science textbook company.

In 1977, Miller started dilithium Press as an answer to the growing need for understandable information on microcomputers. Matrix Publishers continues to publish engineering textbooks and is now a dilithium Press subsidiary.

Sales at dilithium Press were less than \$38,000 during the company's first year. Between 1979 and 1980, they jumped nearly 300 percent, and estimates for fiscal 1983 place revenues at over \$6 million.

Miller began writing computer books soon after dilithium Press got off the ground, because he found that most computer information was too technical for the novice user. People didn't need to learn about bytes and ROM to run a computer.

"I just didn't believe that the 'gee-whiz-isn't-this-marvelous-boys-and-girls' idea of computer hardware was going to make a company survive.

A lot of companies like that went under; all they had was the technology,"
Miller said.

His first book was <u>Home Computers</u>: A <u>Beginner's Glossary</u>. It was followed by <u>How to Make Money with Your Microcomputer</u>, <u>Computers for Everybody</u>, <u>Computers for People</u>, <u>From the Counter to the Bottom Line</u> (a guide to business uses of computers), <u>How to Use SuperCalc</u>, <u>How to Use TeloFacts</u>, and The Manager's <u>Desktop Computers</u>.

Today, dilithium Press distributes books that range from the simple (Computers for Everybody) to the sassy (Nailing Jelly to a Tree).

A recent expansion of the company is dilithium Software. The programs published by this software service are marketed for bookstores as well as computer specialty stores, and they are sold at generally lower prices than software put out by large computer companies.

"When it comes right down to it, computers are a service industry,"
Miller said. "And service includes attracting people, making sure
there is inexpensive, third-party software available, and helping people
understand their computers." To this end, all dilithium Software
packages carry a toll-free telephone number which booksellers and software
buyers alike can call if they have questions.

dilithium also packages software to sit on a shelf like books, in accord with the company philosophy that there is no difference between software and a conventional book. "Both are ideas contained in a receptacle," Miller said.

People who don't know electronics or programming, Miller adds, can still use computers to save time and increase productivity tremendously. "They say that genius is 10 percent inspiration and 90 percent perspiration. When you have your computer doing the perspiration work for you, you'll have more time to become a genius," he said.

# # #

8/23/83

# **Q&A: Merl Miller**

#### By KATHY CHIN

Reporter

ne of the pioneers in publishing. computer books for novices. dilithium Press, was started by board chairman Merl Miller, an ex-fighter pilot in the Marine Corps, and owner of Matrix textbook publishers. It was named dilithium, says 41-year-old Miller, after the dilithium crystals that fueled the Starship Enterprise in the popular TV series "Star Trek." "We knew a lot of people in the computer industry were Trekkies," says Miller.

The idea to publish computer books for nontechnical types took seed in 1976 when Miller obtained an Altair microcomputer that came with extremely difficult documentation. After calling a friend repeatedly to ask how to operate the machine, Miller suggested that they combine their questions and write a book. Two to the Tenth Questions and Answers about Home Computers, published in 1978, maintained a satisfying shelf life of

Since 1977, dilithium Press has leapt from \$38,000 in sales to \$5 million in 1983. To date, the firm has published over 80 beginner books with such nonthreatening titles as Computers Aren't Scary Anymore, Computers for Everybody and How to Buy Your Own Computer.

How do you determine how simple the information in your books can be, without insulting the reader's intelligence?

I don't think you can make it too simple. The standard for general-circulation magazines and newspapers is to write for the eighth-grade reading level. We try to write at the same level. If you make something clear, lucid and understandable, then it's not talking down to people. But we have had criticism that our books are too simple. The New York Times Book Review said our books were too simple and were great for people in Iowa. We like publishing books for people in Iowa.

We've noticed that on the majority of your books, there are dual credits: your name and someone else's. Some people say you don't do the writing but just the editing. Is that true?

All the ones that have my name on



Merl Miller, chairman of dilithium Press

them, I've written. I've written nine books for dilithum. Most of the books I write, I coauthor with Jerry Willis. We have 80 other authors that I have nothing to do with. We don't put a person's name on a book unless that person has written it.

#### Can you explain why the majority of your books have two authors?

One of the things that we have discovered with technical books is that it's hard for one person to know a field. Many times in the computer field, you tend to get so involved and wrapped up that you forget what its like for the neophyte. I would be leery of anyone who would write his first book on his own without a coauthor.

How much are people willing to pay for a computer book?

We did one book in hardback because it was a history of the computer industry and, unfortunately, it didn't sell like we hoped. We sold 20,000 copies of the computer buyers' guide in three months. at \$20 each. It's not so much the issue if it's a paperback or hardback, but the important thing is: does the book deliver the value for the money? Our buyers' guide is 600 pages long. There are two ways to learn about a computer. You can buy a \$50 computer, or buy our \$20 book on computers and you'll learn more.

What is the shelf life of a book? And how do you keep on top of the industry?

I subscribe to 50 magazines and have a huge research staff. As for the shelf-life

question, some books naturally have a long shelf life. If you have a book on programming, you can bet it will have a long shelf life. The basic fundamentals on programming remain the same. But we get around the shelf-life problem by limiting the print run, publishing frequent updates and keeping it at a very simplistic level.

#### Is it true you've recently entered the software business?

We've been publishing software since 1978. Last year we started putting a disk in a book. Our best-selling package is More Than 32 Basic Programs for the Commodore 64. It's sold more than 70,000 copies. Our goal is to get software down to the same price as books in the \$10 to \$20 range.

Last year there were a number of major computer book deals signed such as The Whole Earth Software Catalogue, worth \$1.3 million. Are the days of the big book deals over?

I think it reached its peak last year. I think what publishers have found is that computer books are not like novels. There's a real easy way to throw away a lot of money in a hurry and make some really big mistakes. A technical book has got to be well written and informative, hopefully witty. It has to have good illustrations. But more importantly, it's got to be technically accurate.

I think it's a big mistake for a massmarket publisher to go out and sign up anybody who claims he can write a book.

Now that a swarm of publishers are entering the computer market right now, how has your marketing strategy changed?

Originally we advertised strictly in computer magazines. We tried to push the books in computer stores. Then we started selling to bookstores in 1979. Now, we sell 95% of our books in bookstores and 5% in computer stores. We no longer advertise in the more technical publications like BYTE. We do the big bulk of our advertising budget in People, Time and Business Week. We are following the same path with our software.

What's the hottest topic every writer in the industry wants to write about?

The Macintosh. Then it'll be robots.

# Author tells how to pick a computer guide

#### By Jane Ferrell **Examiner staff writer**

So you've finally made the decision to buy a computer.

But first you have to find out exactly what a computer is, you say? You don't know a ROM from a RAM, and you think byte is the English way to spell what you take out of a sandwich?

No problem. Despite the proliferation of computerese in the Bay Area, don't think you're the only one around here who's confused. There's an easy way to get acquainted with the little dark-screened microchipped buggers, says Merl Miller, coauthor with Jerry Willis of "Computers for Everybody" and "Computers for Everybody 1984 Buyer's Guide."

His basic advise is three-fold:

· Don't take courses offered by computer stores. "Those classes should be retitled, 'How to Spend Your Money in Our Store,'" says Miller. He advises learning something about computers before you face a computer salesperson who's likely to be talking in a language you don't understand.

• Don't bother with basic computer courses in colleges, either. "Most of those are teaching you how to program Basic," he says. "That isn't what you need to know."

• Read a good computer guide before reading a buyer's guide. Of course, Miller is advocating his, but he has advice on how to choose from among the 3,000 guides on the market today.

"A good computer guide has two essential elements," says Miller. "It's good nonfiction. It's well-written, witty in places. It has easy-to-understand illustrations. Anyone can understand the information in it. There's no reason to home in on ROMs (read only memory) and RAMs (random access memory)."

Miller and Willis say they wrote the book for intellegent adults with little or no technical background. They both tried out the book on their mothers.

"Secondly, it's technically accurate," says Miller. "Nothing is worse than reading a book that you really enjoy, then discovering that the guy didn't know what he was talking about."

Miller cited Peter McWilliams as an example. He writes well and has been given a lot of attention in the popular press. Miller said, but McWilliams' computer books contain inaccurate information and have been lambasted in computer magazines.

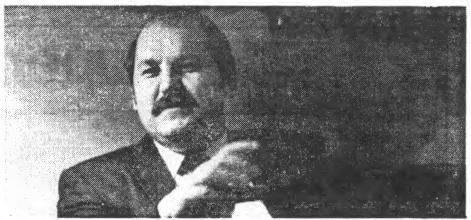
Technically inaccurate books come on the market because a lot of publishers wanted to publish computer guides, but "didn't take the time to get a technical accurate," says Miller.

Publishers that can be relied upon for technically accurate information, he says, are McGraw-Hill, Osborne (part of McGraw-Hill now). Sybex, Hayden and Oregonbased, lower-cased, dilithium Press, of which Miller is chairman.

"Computers for Everybody" has a chapter called, "Where to find everything we cal engineering. Fortunately, I did. But it didn't tell vou," which lists recommended bibliographies, directories, software reviews, other publishers, magazines and new publications.

So what makes Miller such an expert?

Miller, who has a degree in systems engineering from the University of Wyoming, began working in the publishing business as a technical book salesman for Prentice Hall, then as an editor for West Publishing Co. He started his own publishing company, Matrix Publishers, an engi-



Examiner/Kim Komenich

#### MERL MILLER, CO-AUTHOR OF 'COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY' 'A good computer guide is non-fiction that's well-written and witty'

editor to make sure all the information was neering computer science textbook company in 1975 with \$9 of his own money and a \$1,000 loan from a friend. He was interested in microcomputers and bought one of the first ones that came out, a do-it-yourself

> "Eleven-thousand parts and just 15 pages of instruction on how to put it together. The book assumed you had a degree in electri

was still a mess to put together."

He began looking around at other books on home computers and found them all to be too difficult for the average person to understand. He asked a friend of his at Santa Cruz to write a beginner's book for him. "That book sold 12,000 copies in six months," Miller says, still remembering the event with some surprise. "Who would've thought they would've sold?"

D10 命命 Jan. 29, 1984 S.F. Sunday Examiner & Chronicle contact: Ann Hovland
Public Relations

Wynne Ramirez Marketing Assistant (800) 547-1842

DILITHIUM PRESS PIONEERS SALES OF SOFTWARE IN BOOKSTORES:

OFFERS RETAILERS FIVE POINT SUPPORT PROGRAM

BEAVERTON, OR (February 21, 1984) -- dilithium Press Ltd., a maverick in field of microcomputer book publishing, introduced the idea of selling reasonably priced software through bookstores. Tailored to the bookstore market, dilithium Press Software is unique in design. It offers the consumer the option of buying the book by itself or with a disk/cassette in a book/software package. The retailer can display dilithium Press Software on a shelf like a book and the consumer can get useful inexpensive software right next to the latest novel at the neighborhood bookstore.

And this original marketing concept is generating record sales. In 1983 dilithium Press Software's 32 BASIC Programs for the Commodore 64 sold over 65,000 copies, primarily through the bookstores.

Believing the software industry is and should be a service industry, dilithium has launched a 5-point support program for its retailers. dilithium Press Software offers:

- \* An eye-catching Point-Of-Purchase display with no minimum order. This dynamic blue display features up to 24 book/ software packages and requires a mere 13" X 15" of floor space.
- \*Tamper-proof TYVEK<sup>r</sup> packaging
- \*Theft insurance Any disk which is stolen will be replaced, free of charge.
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8285 SW Nimbus Suite 151 Beaverton, Oregon 97005 503-646-2713 800-547-1842 This 5-point software support program is offered only through dilithium Press. However, dilithium Press Software is available through your local distributor. Phone toll-free (800) 547-1842 for more information.

dilithium Press is the leading publisher of microcomputer books and software for the beginner. Based in Oregon, it publishes for the business, educational, and personal applications markets.



CONTACT: Ann L. Hovland, Public Relations 800-547-1842

November 8, 1983

#### COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY 1984 BUYER'S GUIDE

Why is Apple so successful? What makes the VIC 20 computer such a good buy for your money? Why have Atari and Texas Instruments lost money? Which computers really are IBM PC compatible? COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY 1984

BUYER'S GUIDE, written by Jerry Willis and Merl Miller, tells you these and hundreds of other "insider" facts that are invaluable to you as you make your computer purchase. The book will be released by dilithium Press in late October 1983.

COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY 1984 BUYER'S GUIDE is a single source for up-to-date information on microcomputers. Merl and Jerry, co-authors of the bestselling COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY, make your decision infinitely easier and wiser. Written in an easy-to-follow style, the book is organized so you have the information you need right at your finger tips. 143 computer models are described in detail -- from the quality of their keyboard designs to the type of software available for them. A color section is included with photographs large enough to really see the features of the computers. And you're given information on what you can expect in terms of repairs, service and support for each computer model reviewed.

Merl and Jerry firmly believe that you deserve accurate, truthful information when you shop for a computer. And because of this, they tell you about the 12 Greatest Computer Lies and tell you what you can do about them.

Chapters include:

- \*\* Introduction to the Guide and Computer Hardware
- \*\* Introduction to Software

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-more-

- \*\* Computer Lies
- \*\* Steps in Selecting a Computer
- \*\* The Cheap Seats
- \*\* Home and General Purpose Computers
- \*\* Business and Professional Computers
- \*\* Premium Business and Professional Computers
- \*\* Portable Computers

COMPUTERS FOR EVERYBODY 1984 BUYERS GUIDE tells you how to buy a computer and gives you all the information you need to make a smart decision.

Jerry Willis is Professor and Director of the Educational Computing Center at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Merl Miller is an industrial engineer who got involved in computers and electronics as a hobby. He has been publishing computer books for thirteen years, and is Board Chairman of dilithium Press.

ISBN 0-88056-132-7 300 pages paper \$19.95 # #

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## Painless Computer Buying

Computers for Everybody, 1984 Buyer's Gulde, by Jerry Willis and Merl Miller. Dilithium Press, Bea-verton, Ore. 586 pages. \$19.95.

F the authors of this hefty tome had done nothing more than write the book's third chapter and put it between covers, they still would have done the masses of computer buyers a great service. Very little is more frustrating for a first-time buyer than to realize later that he has been the to realize later that he has been the victim of Ignorant or impatient computer salesmen. "This program will work in your machine" is a common promise, or "of course this will run I.B.M. software."

In their third chapter, Mr. Willis and Mr. Miller deal with the 12 most common computer lies and what the reader can do about them. The first thing one can do, of course, is to buy

thing one can do, of course, is to buy the book. Not only does it deal with the misdeeds of salesmen, but it also has a refreshingly clear introduction to the art of purchasing a computer, and one of the very best collections of reviews of the machines.

The authors give luxuriously complete critiques of 144 current godels, ranging from the "cheap seats" (computers that cost under 3600) to the home and general-purpose models (including the Apple He and Commodore PET), the bustness and professional computers (Mor.ow and Xerox), the premium business and professional models (I.B.M. and Wang) and portable personal computers (Kayara and Caresa). ers (Kaypro and Compaq). The authors include their general opinions of the various models and highly in-formative background details, and also assess the quality of the key-board and video display, disk drive and other storage capacity, plus available software, peripherals, service and dealer networks.

The second thing to do about computer lies is to memorize the third chapter: Though every buyer will not run into all of these dozen fast-sale tricks, it behooves the novice to be prepared. Does the word "lie" sound harsh? The authors thought so at first. "Salespeople in computer stores can be misinformed, after all," they reasoned. "And they have the right to gild the lily, don't they?" But they rejected that rationale. "It's not just stretching the truth when you are told that a computer runs thousands of programs when there actually are fewer than 10 programs currently available. Lies are lies."

Some of the common high-tech cir-cumlocutions they discuss:

 This computer is user friendly.
 Probably 50 to 80 percent of the computers that claim to be so are not so easy to use, the authors say. Moreover, try to decipher this supposedly user-friendly byte of documentation cited by the authors from one computer manual: "Positional parameters are substituted in their order on the invocation line for corresponding occurrences in the batch file

 Plenty of software is available for this computer. This can be a deceptive half-truth. It depends on what kind of software you are looking for. Even the most popular computers have gaps in available software. I.B.M. still does not have a lot of educational packages written for it, while Atari computers are short on

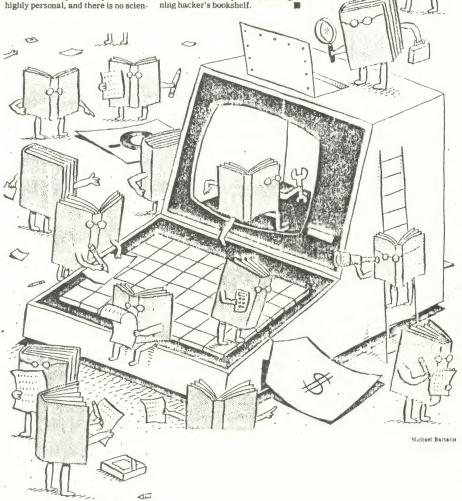
business programs.

• This computer is compatible with the I.B.M. PC. This is probably the least understood and least researched claim in the business but certainly one of the most important, since so much of the industry is moving to-ward compatibility with the PC — that is, the ability to use software designed for the PC. And plty the wide-eyed buyer who gets delivery of his "PC compatible" machine, only to find it doesn't run his favorite 1.B.M. program. "Other than the I.B.M. PC itself, to our knowledge, there is no computer that is completely compat-ible," the authors say. But they note that of all the compatibles, the Compaq is the most compatible.

While the authors like many of the machines they review, they seem to have a preference for some. And why not? The computer experience is highly personal, and there is no scien-

tific forumia for personal preference.
They seem to be particularly enamored of the Eagle PC — the machine they used to write their book — for its keyboard, its highly usable word processing software and high-resolution screen. They also like the Texas In-struments Professional Computer (not to be confused with T.I.'s \$100 99 4/A, a discontinued model) and of course the I.B.M. PC, among others.
In all, the authors make the com-

puter buying task a lot easier, and despite the book's rather steep price it is worth a well-worn place on the beginning hacker's bookshelf.







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